SITE DESCRIPTION/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SITE NAME AND LOCATION:

Automotive Finishes, Inc.
6430 Wyoming Road
Dearborn, Michigan 48126

County: Wayne
MDEQ District: SE Michigan
EPA ID #: MID005353651

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Automotive Finishes, Inc. (AFI) site is an inactive automotive painting facility, located at 6430 Wyoming Road, Dearborn, Wayne County, Michigan (Fig. 1). The site is situated in an urban/industrial area of the city of Dearborn.
The AFI site is approximately 3 acres in size and consists of two buildings, a courtyard between the two buildings, a parking area and a large grassy field. The site is bordered: to the west by Wyoming Road, to the east by industrial facilities, and to the south by Detroit Terminal Railroad tracks and the Chrysler McGraw Glass Plant. The nearest residential areas are approximately 1/4 mile east and north of the site.
The AFI is currently in bankruptcy court, The site was referred to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) by the City of Dearborn, through the Brownsfields Initiative.

SITE HISTORY

On July 16, 1991 all 5 Underground Storage Tanks located at the AFI site were removed.

On December 20, 1996, the Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E), Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) was tasked by the U.S. EPA to conduct a site assessment on the AFI site.

On December 26, 1996, members of the START and the U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) conducted a site assessment at the AFI. During the site assessment, the START observed that the buildings were found to be flooded with water due to a rupture in the sprinkler system piping. A total of approximately 600 55-gallon drums, 4 1000-gallon aboveground storage tanks (AST's) labeled flammable, 50 1-gallon containers and 21 5-gallon buckets were found in the two buildings. In the courtyard, unsheltered stacked drums, some of which were empty and others found to be bulging. And in the field located east of buildings, approximately 170 drums were found in this area, with many drums being empty or overturned.

On March 14,1997, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) assumed oversight duties of the AFI sites removal per the U.S. EPA.

Between June 1, 1997 and July 28, 1998, the following were transported offsite by the environmental services of Phillip Services Corp. (PSC):

1053 55-gallon drums of flammable liquids, 11,900 gallons of flammable liquids (paint, totes and pails), 60 55-gallon drums of environmentally hazardous substance (pigment), 538 empty and crushed drums (55- and 85-gallon), 143 gallons of corrosive liquids and 60 yards of pebbles/RCRA empty pails.

On September 4, 1997, a representative from the MDEQ inspected the clean-up progress. It was determined that some issues still remained and would be completed.

On October 24, 1997, PSC disposed of the following: approximately 1,400 gallons of waste flammable liquids taken from the north manufacturing building, 13-gallon empty poly- drum and two crushed steel 55-gallon drums.

On January 6, 1998, 8 55-gallon drums of waste flammable liquids were disposed of.

SITE GEOLOGY

No site-specific geological data was found. According to various geological maps, the site appears to be located in a lacustrine clay and silt environment. Underlying this material appears to be bedrock of the traverse group unit, which is of Devonian in age.

MIGRATION PATHWAYS

The groundwater in this area is not used for drinking water. All residents within the area of the site are serviced by the Detroit Municipal Water System. This water is obtained from surface water intakes located in Lake Huron and the Detroit River.

Although the contaminated soil was removed, there is potential for soil exposure at the AFI site. Access to the property is semi-restricted.

The distance to the Rouge River from the AFI site is approximately 3 miles and the distance to the Detroit River is4 ½ miles. Given this distance, the probability that any contamination discharging from the storm sewers could not be solely attributed to the site. Therefore, an observed release to the surface water pathway can not be determined.

Date of previous summary:
Previous author:

Current date: 3/24/00
Current author: Michael A. Brennan

Michael A. Brennan

Pre-Remedial Program
Superfund Section
Environmental Response Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Figure 1: Site Location Map